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(Re-)Constructing Richard Mühlfeld? Rubato and Rhythmic Freedom in Brahms's Clarinet Sonata
◆Op. 120 No. 2 Mvt. 1. [Lecture-recital]

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(Re-)Constructing Richard Mühlfeld?
Rubato and Rhythmic Freedom in
Brahms's Clarinet Sonata
Op. 120 No. 2 Mvt. I.

Dr Emily Worthington (Independent Scholar)

Introduction

Sources

Table of recordings

Ambrosius	Suite Op.57 – (iii) Minuet, (v) Gigue	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1925
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20 – (ii) Adagio cantabile	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Philharmoniker	unknown
Beethoven	Trio for clarinet or violin, cello and piano in Bb Op.11	Münchner Kammermusik-Vereinigung	1928
Beethoven	Trio for clarinet or violin, cello and piano in Bb Op.11	Amodio, Schrader, Schulze	1942
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20 – (iii) Tempo di menuetto, (v) Scherzo	Bläser-Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Städtischen Oper, Berlin	unknown
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20	Eweler, Bläser-Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Städtischen Oper, Berlin	unknown
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20 – (iii) Tempo di menuetto, (v) Scherzo	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	unknown
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Staatsoper	unknown
Beethoven	Septet in Eb Op.20 – (iii) Tempo di minuetto, (v) Scherzo	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Staatsoper	unknown
Beethoven arr. Weigelt	Trio for 2 oboes & cor anglais in C Op.87	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1923
Beethoven arr. Weigelt	Variations on 'Là ci darem la mano' from Mozart's <i>Don Giovanni</i> for 2 oboes & cor anglais WoO 28	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1923
Hindemith	Kleine Kammermusik Op.24 No.2	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1925
Klughardt	Quintet in C Op.79	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1923
Laurischkus	Lethonia (Aus Litauen), Suite Op.22	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1925
Laurischkus	Lethonia (Aus Litauen), Suite Op.22 – (iii) Daina, litauisches Volkslied, (iv) Dorfserenade	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	1919-20
Lendvai	Quintet Op.23	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1927

Table of recordings

Mozart	Serenade in Eb K.375 [octet version]	Bläser-Oktett der Staatsoper, Berlin, Kleiber	1924
Mozart	Divertimento for 2 oboes, 2 horns & 2 bassoons in Bb K.240	Berlin State Opera Orchestra, Blech	1931
Mozart	Quintet in A K.581	Amodio, Strub Quartet	1941
Mozart	Quintet in A K.581	Dreisbach, Wendling Quartet	unknown
Mozart	Quintet in A K.581	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Staatsoper	unknown
Mozart	Quintet in A K.581 – (ii) Larghetto, (iii) Menuetto	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Staatsoper [Berlin]	1923
Mozart	Quintet in A K.581 – (ii) Larghetto, (iii) Menuetto	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Staatsoper	unknown
Mozart	Quintet in Eb K.452	A. Schmid-Lindner, Münchner Bläser	1929
Mozart	Serenade in Bb K.361 'Gran Partita' – (i) Largo; Molto allegro, (iv) Menuetto: Allegretto, (v) Romanze	members of Berlin State Opera Orchestra, Stiedry	1929
Mozart	Serenade in Bb K.361 'Gran Partita' – (i) Largo; Molto allegro, (iv) Menuetto: Allegretto, (vi) Tema con variazioni, (vii) Rondo	Berlin State Opera Orchestra, Blech	1931
Mozart	Serenade in c for winds K.388	Bläser-Oktett der Berliner Staatsoper, Széll	1924
Mozart	Trio for clarinet or violin, cello and piano in Eb K.498	Amodio, Nel, Schultze	1942
Mozart arr. ?	Adagio for 2 clarinets & 3 basset horns in Bb K.411	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1928
Mozart arr. ?	Divertimento for 2 oboes, 2 horns & 2 bassoons in Eb K.289 – (iv) Presto	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1928
Mozart arr. Weigelt	Divertimento for 2 oboes, 2 horns & 2 bassoons in Bb K.270	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1926
Mozart arr. Weigelt	Divertimento for 2 oboes, 2 horns & 2 bassoons in F K.213	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1926
Mozart arr. Weigelt	Divertimenti for 3 basset horns in Bb K.Anh.229/439b No.4 - (i)-(iv); No.1 - (v) Rondo: Allegro	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1927

Table of recordings

Onslow	Quintet in F Op.81	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1926
Reger	Quintet Op.146 – (ii) Scherzo: Vivace	Dreisbach, Wendling Quartet	unknown
Reicha	Quintet in D Op.? – (i) Adagio, (ii) Scherzo: Allegro	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	unknown
Schubert	Octet in F D.803 – exc.?	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Staatsoper	1923
Schubert	Octet in F D.803 – (ii) Adagio	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	unknown
Schubert	Octet in F D.803 – (v) Menuetto	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	unknown
Schubert	Octet in F D.803 – (iii) Allegro vivace [as Scherzo], (v) Menuetto	Kammermusikvereinigung der Berliner Staatsoper	unknown
Spohr	Nonetto in F Op.31 – (ii) Scherzo	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	unknown
Spohr	Nonetto in F Op.31 – (ii) Scherzo	Kammermusik-Vereinigung der Opernhaus-Kapelle	1918
Spohr, arr. Schmid-Lindner	Quintet in c Op.52? – (iii) Menuetto: Allegretto [arr. for sextet]	A. Schmid-Lindner, Münchner Bläser	1929
Thuille	Sextet in Bb Op.6 – (iii) Gavotte	A. Schmid-Lindner, Münchner Bläser	1929
Thuille	Sextet in Bb Op.6 – (iii) Gavotte, (iv) Finale	Bläser-Vereinigung der Kapelle des Staatstheaters-Opernhaus, Berlin	1919
Weber	Grand Duo Concertant Op.48 – (iii) Rondo	Dreisbach, anon. (pno)	unknown
Wunderlich, Otto	Suite – (?) Scherzo (Nixenreigen), (?) Humoreske	Erste Bläser-Vereinigung der Staatsoper, Dresden	1924-5

Ages of players

<i>Oscar Schubert</i>	<i>1849–1933</i>	<i>Berlin</i>
Richard Mühlfeld	1856–1907	Meiningen
[Charles Draper]	1869–1952	London
Carl Eßberger	c. 1880 or earlier	Berlin
Leonhard Kohl	c. 1890 or earlier	Berlin
Philip Driesbach	1891–1980	Stuttgart
Alfred Richter	c. 1890–?	Leipzig
Willi Schreinicke	c. 1895–1979	Leipzig
Karl Schutte	c. 1900–?	Dresden

Instrumental Style

Tone

‘Herr Muhlfeld’s tone is rich and sympathetic, with none of the penetrating harshness which sometimes makes the instrument so forbidding’

Manchester Guardian, 16 December 1892

‘The medium register did not offend the ear by its insufficiency, and instead of merely bridging over the gap between the Chalumeau and the acute register, appeared to have caught and blended the characteristic tone colours of its two neighbours. The Chalumeau was full and rich and of pure reeds [sic] tone, the acute section clear and sweet.’

‘York Musical Union/ Beethoven and Brahms’ Clarinet Trios’, *The Yorkshire Herald*, and *the York Herald*, 29 January 1900 p. 3.

Tone: Leonhard Kohl

Beethoven Trio Op. 11, rec. 1928

Tone: Alfred Richter

Schubert: Die Hirt auf dem Felsen, c.1924

Attack and Articulation

Members of Berlin State Opera Orchestra, Stiedry, 1929

Vibrato: Philipp Dreisbach

Vivace. (♩ = 160-176)

Klarinette in A

Violine I

Violine II

Bratsche

Violoncell

Klarinette in A: *p dolce espress.*
 con Sordino pizz.
 Violine I: *con pp*
 Sordino pizz.
 Violine II: *pp*
 sempre senza Sordino
 Bratsche: *pp*
 con Sordino pizz.
 Violoncell: *pp*
 sempre pp

Klarinette in A: *p*
 sul D - -
 arco
 Violine I: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Violine II: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Bratsche: *pizz.*
 Violoncell: *pp*
 arco
 sempre pp

Klarinette in A: *dolce espress.*
p
 pizz.
 Violine I: *sempre pp*
 pizz.
 Violine II: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Bratsche: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Violoncell: *sempre pp*
 pizz.
 sempre pp

13788

Klarinette in A: *p*
 sul D - -
 arco
 Violine I: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Violine II: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Bratsche: *pp*
 arco
 Violoncell: *sempre pp*

Klarinette in A: *pp*
 Violine I: *sempre pp*
 Violine II: *sempre pp*
 Bratsche: *pizz.*
 Violoncell: *pizz.*

Klarinette in A: *pizz.*
 arco
 Violine I: *sempre pp*
 pizz.
 Violine II: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Bratsche: *sempre pp*
 arco
 Violoncell: *sempre pp*
 pizz.
 arco
 f

13788

Un poco meno mosso. (♩ = 144)

mp espress. arco

pp arco

pp arco

mp espress. arco

dolce

sempre pp

28

sempre pp

espress.

quasi rit.

a tempo

p

pp dolcissimo

ppp dolcissimo

ppp dolcissimo

pp espress. pizz.

pp dolcissimo

dolcissimo

sempre ppp

sempre ppp

sempre pp

13788

sempre pp

dolcissimo

dolcissimo

pp

poco espress.

quasi rit.

a tempo

sempre ppp

pp

pp

pp

pp

sul A

p espress.

sul G

p espress.

Musical Style

Rubato: Carl Esberger

Weber: Concerto No. 1 in F minor, Mvt 1

KONZERT

Klarinette in B

Heinrich Bärmann gewidmet

Stimme nach Carl Bärmann. 1870**)

Komponiert 1811

C. M. v. Weber
Opus 73 · J 114*)

Allegro ♩ = 108

pp 6 28

43 1 1 2. # p con duolo fp

54 p più f f

62 1 accelerando poco a poco p 3 3 3 p cresc.

Lombardic

68 f ff f

72 brillante tenuto a tempo 2 2 morendo p dolce pp

83 Vc., Kb. con anima p p

Vibrato?

92 1 mf espressivo 3 3 f sf

100 poco rall. f p perdendosi 5

*) Friedrich Wilhelm Jähns, Carl Maria von Weber in seinen Werken.
Chronologisch-thematisches Verzeichniss seiner sämtlichen Com-
positionen. Berlin 1871.

**) Siehe Vorwort.
See Preface.
Cl. Preface.

ff *Con moto* ♩ = 100 *p* *p*

130 *lusingando e con espressione*

134 *cresc.* *cresc.* *f* *espressivo*

138 *sf*

143 *f*

Cadenza

p *cresc.* *f*

*) Siehe Bemerkungen.

*) See Comments.

*) Cf. Bemerkungen ou Comments.

Leipzig Gewandhaus Wind Quintet

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Onslow	Quintet in F Op.81	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	1926
Reicha	Quintet in D Op.? – (i) Adagio, (ii) Scherzo: Allegro	Gewandhaus-Bläser-Vereinigung, Leipzig	unknown

Klughardt Quintet Op. 79 Mvt. I

Wind Quintet in C Op.79

August Klughardt
Arr. & Trans. by J.G.Cucó

Allegro non troppo

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Trompa en F

Fagot

9

18

A Tempo

Rubato

p espress.

dim.

p espress.

22

A

Ensemble

p

uneven

33

p

cresc.

p

cresc.

p

cresc.

p

cresc.

144

Overdotting

p tranquillo

H

Agogics

Precise ensemble

p tranquillo

cresc.

154

tr

ff

ff

Agogics

p

f *cresc.*

ff

157

Straight, rushing

cresc.

Agogics

f

cresc.

cresc.

f

f

160

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

164

p

p

p

p

dim.

p

Portamento

Rubato

169

f

dim.

p

p dolce

p

p

p espress.

Anticipation

174

p

espress.

181

p dim.

Anticipation

dim.

dim.

dim.

188

poco a poco cresc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

p poco a poco cresc.

poco a poco cresc.

poco a poco cresc.

194

p dolce

p dolce

p dolce

p

p dolce

Slower

Organology



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Oscar Schubert and Fanny Davies

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SONATE

ES DUR * MI MAJEUR * E FLAT MAJOR

Johannes Brahms, Op.120 N°2
Rev. Oscar Schubert & Carl Friedberg

Allegro amabile (♩ = 96)

Clarinete in Sib (B)

Pianoforte

(con Ped.)

(—) (—) (—) (tranquillo) pp

dol. p dol.

Sheet music for piano, featuring four systems of staves. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

System 1: The first system shows a melodic line in the right hand with a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and a *p* (piano) dynamic. The left hand provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. A *dol.* (dolce) marking is present in the left hand. The system concludes with a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking.

System 2: The second system continues the melodic and harmonic development. It features a *f* (forte) dynamic in the right hand and a *sf* (sforzando) marking in the left hand. The system ends with a *fp* (fortissimo) marking and a *cresc.* marking.

System 3: The third system includes a *f* (forte) dynamic in the right hand and a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic in the left hand. A red box highlights a specific melodic phrase in the right hand. The system concludes with a *f* (forte) dynamic.

System 4: The fourth system features a *f* (forte) dynamic in the right hand and a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic in the left hand. A red box highlights a specific melodic phrase in the right hand. The system concludes with a *fp dim.* (fortissimo diminuendo) marking.

The page number 14429 is visible at the bottom center.

With thanks to

Nick Morgan

Michael Bryant

Joylon Hudson

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